

Ladies have quit exit in playoffs

By NICK ZAMBRANO
Sports editor

Playoffs. Every team strives to make it into the postseason, but only the elite get invited in. Everyone says that the playoffs are like another season, I agree. It's a season where losing is not an option, because if your team loses just one game, the season's over.

Last week, our women's basketball team started their postseason play in hopes of putting up another championship banner in the rafters of Epler Gym. However, the same week Head Coach Elizabeth Stanley and her squad set off on their postseason hunt, they were dealt that loss and sent back home.

The Lady Renegades actually started off their hunt by beating rival Chabot 74-67, back on February

22. With that win over Chabot, the Lady Renegades went on to face Reedley College.

There in Reedley, the Lady Renegades were dealt that one loss and sent back to Fremont banner-less.

In a game, in which the final score was 87-83, Ohlone and Reedley were not always close.

Athalftime, the Lady Renegades had a commanding 12 point lead.

After the half, Ohlone managed to turn that 12 point lead into 15. However, due to some bad calls and one-sided officiating, Stanley saw her team's lead slipping away.

"I'm not one to blame the officials, but this officiating crew made it very difficult for the team to hold on to the lead," said Stanley.

Even though the officiating was

not in their favor, Ohlone managed to keep Reedley's top player; Aspen Hampton, into foul trouble. With Hampton in foul trouble, Ohlone tried to take advantage of their opportunities at the free-throw line.

They were 12 for 20 from the line.

In addition to that, Ohlone did have a few bright spots. Leading their attack was point guard Alcha Strane. The sophomore had a double-double with 26 points and 12 assists. Also contributing in the failed effort was Kaycie Zimmerman, who had 15 points and three steals.

In the locker room afterwards, the mood was very somber. "It is hard not to be sad," said Stanley. "This team really gets along and it is sad that many are moving on."

This also marked the last game

for the sophomores here at Ohlone. "The team accomplished a great deal and most of the success was predicated on their leadership, focus and laudable performances on and off the court," said Stanley about her group of sophomores. Stanley's sophomores will dearly be missed, as they took up 10 of her roster spots.

Even though her team lost, Stanley maintains her "process-oriented" attitude. "They proved to everyone that they are a good team and they are one of the best teams in the state. Reedley knows they dodged a bullet," said Stanley, "we were seeded as the fifteenth team and they were the second team. They celebrated like they just upset the higher seed team. They were very lucky to eek out that win."



The final score

By STEVEN CHAVEZ
Correspondent

The Big Hurt's war of words

Okay, let me preface this week's rant with the notion that I am no Frank Thomas fan. I don't, honestly, care one way or the other about him personally or, for that matter, professionally. He's been a great player over the years, with borderline-hall-of-fame numbers. He's never really caused too much of a commotion over in Chicago; yet here we stand, on the brink of a new season, and he's already making headlines for off-the-field actions.

This past week, Thomas and Chicago White Sox General Manager Kenny Williams went into a heated exchange through the media. Williams went so far as to call Thomas an idiot, selfish and to insist that the World Series champs don't miss him. I would have to agree with that last part since they won the World Series with Thomas' keister parked on the bench.

Thomas though, did what any classy, professional man would do; he stayed pretty much out of it.

The controversy was sparked by Thomas' comments to a suburban Chicago newspaper saying that he felt let down by the fact that White Sox chairman, Jerry Reinsdorf, didn't call him to let him know of the team's decision to part ways with the 16-year veteran, all of who's years were spent with the White Sox.

Any man would be. No man, who gave his career and livelihood to one team/company/union would feel it right that his employer would unceremoniously cast them off into oblivion.

His words were harmless and did not provoke the onslaught of words that Williams fired in his direction. Williams showed himself to be gutless and heartless, to go along with the brilliant that he earned last year by putting together that team, which made them even stronger over the offseason.

The fact, though, that Thomas took all this with a grain of salt and held his head high -- didn't compete in this war of words shows the class, dignity and professionalism so lacking in today's world of sports. His actions, or lack thereof, should be praised coast to coast.

Here's hoping that he stays healthy enough to land the A's back in the World Series this year after 16 years, going through Chicago to get there, of course. And here's also hoping that they get swept by the Giants.

Ohlone ties in 18-inning wonder

By RAHUL BATRA
Staff writer

The Renegade baseball team last Saturday played a long, heated battle against Diablo Valley College (DVC). Strong defense and solid pitching from both sides were key factors in the game. Because of the defensive battle and lackluster offense, the game ended in a 1-1 tie in the 18th inning due to darkness.

The Renegades started the game off hot. Newark Memorial alum Jason Tweedy knocked in the first run of the game in the bottom of the first inning, with a single scoring Jeremy Brown.

However, the Renegades couldn't bring in any more runs. The Renegades didn't have a rhythm as far as making contact with the ball, scoring runs and consistently getting runners on base.

"We didn't excel on offense," said Ohlone Manager Paul Moore. "When we had runners on base, we couldn't get them in. We need to put more emphasis on getting our lead off hitters on."

The same went with DVC. There first and only run came when they started off with a lead off double in the top of the fifth, then a single to advance the runner to third and then a sacrifice fly to score in the tying run. DVC could not find a way to

bring in the runs after that as well. Their hitters left men stranded on base, couldn't make contact or put the ball in play.

It seemed that every hitter on both teams had the potential to make solid contact with the ball and to put it in play. Moore said the exact same thing after the game as well. "Every hitter had an opportunity to bring runners on base in to score." Back and forth, back and forth, both sides would give the opposing defense 1-2-3 innings. From the fifth inning on, the crowd started to get disinterested and bored. It even seemed that the players and coaches were also feeling the same way.

Defense played a major role in this tug of war. Both starting pitchers threw the heat. DVC's pitcher logged nine strikeouts and Vinnie Climent, the Renegade's ace, threw eight strikeouts. Maybe, if the pitching wasn't so outstanding, the game may have been a little bit more exciting to watch.

However, I do have to give credit to the players on both teams. To be motivated to keep playing and to have the enthusiasm through 18 innings is incredible. Up next for the Renegades will be Mission College, today at 2 p.m.



Ohlone first baseman Ramiro Pereda jumps into his set position. The Renegades take on Mission College. Photo by Ross Tsvetanov.

Renegades swim past De Anza

By NAOMI BALAGOT
Staff writer

The Ohlone swim season is currently in full swing as the Renegades collectively blew past DeAnza College with a culminated score of 224-167, last Friday in Coast Conference competition.

On the men's side, Andrei Soen, Po-Han Chan, Alex Schmeel and Billy Purta won the 200 Medley Relay with a time of 1:45.00.

Sprint freestyler, Billy Purta won the 50 Freestyle (24.18) and the 100 Freestyle (53.63). Freshmen Po-Han Chen and Andrei Soen took

first place in the 100 Backstroke (1:04.84) and 200 Individual Medley (2:14.77) events.

The Lady Renegades solely dominated the competition as Erin Morgan, Ashley Kendall, Kat Ashley and Ashley Rogers exceptionally took first place in the 200 Medley Relay, posting a time of 2:01.35.

Freshman Kat Ashley won the 1000 Freestyle (12:28.62) and the 50 Butterfly (30.99) individual events.

Other outstanding performances include Ashley Rogers taking first place in the 50 Backstroke (32.19) and sophomore standout

swimmer, Erin Morgan won the 100 IM (1:04.19) and the 50 Breaststroke with an impressive time of 33.16.

Head Coach Gene Kendall was very impressed with Allison Gibson's exciting 200 Freestyle race, as she took first place with a time of 2:22.01 and Eric Meyer winning the 100 Breast with a time of 1:13.13.

In regards to last Friday's win, Head Coach Gene Kendall said, "It means we're still on top of the pack. We're undefeated for the men and the women. It leaves us in first place, which is a nice place to be."

On the men's side, West Valley College and Chabot will be uncompromising competition and on the women's side; long-time rival Chabot will go head to head with the Lady Renegades. They have high hopes to pursue their Conference reigning title, as the season progresses on.

"In Conference, we have a fifty-fifty shot. We're close, but ultimately it's going to be a coin toss between us and Chabot," said Kendall.

Next week the Renegades swim team face Foothill and Cabrillo Colleges at Foothill, next Friday at 2 p.m.